



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
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WILLIAM M. TAM
INTERIM DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STAFF SUBMITTAL

for the meeting of the
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

January 20, 2011
Honolulu, Oahu

Chairperson's Recommendation
Approval of Mr. William M. Tam as
Deputy Director, Commission on Water Resource Management

With the Governor's concurrence, I hereby submit my appointment of Mr. William M. Tam, Esq. as Deputy Director for Water Resource Management for your approval pursuant to Haw. Rev. Stat. 174C-6. Mr. Tam began work as the Deputy Director on January 3, 2011, subject to your approval. Attached for your review and information is Mr. Tam's biographical background.

Mr. Tam is a lawyer who specializes in Hawai'i water, natural resources, and land use law. For 17 years, Mr. Tam was a Deputy Attorney General for the Board of Land and Natural Resources (1981 to 1997) and the first legal counsel to the Commission on Water Resources Management (1987 to 1997). He co-authored Hawaii's Water Code (1987) and taught land law at University of Hawaii Law School. Mr. Tam graduated from Wesleyan University (Conn.) (BA 1970) and Boston University School of Law (J.D. 1976). He has extensive knowledge and experience in all aspects of water and land use law in Hawaii. These are important and needed skills to guide and support the Commission on Water Resource Management and its staff in protecting and managing Hawai'i's water resources.

RECOMMENDATION:

I recommend that the Commission approve the appointment of William H. Tam as the Deputy Director for the Commission on Water Resource Management effective January 3, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William J. Aila, Jr.".

WILLIAM J. AILA
Interim Chairperson

Attachment - Resume



WILLIAM M. TAM

Of Counsel
Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing,
Suite 1800, American Savings Bank Twr
1001 Bishop St., Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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Areas of Practice

Water; Natural Resources; Land Use; Real Property; Environmental Law; Ocean Law; Government; Administrative Law; Appellate Law; Hawaiian Land Rights Complex Contested Cases and Mediation

Admitted to Practice

Hawai'i Supreme Court; U.S. District Court, District of Hawai'i; U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit; U.S. Supreme Court; U.S. Court of Claims; District of Columbia

Education

Boston University School of Law, Boston, Mass. (J.D. 1976)
Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn. (B.A. 1970)
Punahou School (1966)

Past Positions

State of Hawai'i Deputy Attorney General (1982-1997)
Hawai'i Board of Land and Natural Resources, Counsel (1982-1997)
Hawai'i Commission on Water Resources Management, Counsel (1982-1997)
Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i, Attorney (1976-1981)
Hawai'i House of Representatives' Majority Attorneys Office, Attorney (1977)
Peace Corps, Sierra Leone, Volunteer (1971-1973)

Affiliations

Marimed Foundation, Chair, Board of Trustees and Founding Member
Polynesian Voyaging Society, Director
Trust for Public Land, Hawai'i Cabinet

Community Conservation Network, Director
Kaneohe Bay Community Land Trust, Director
Hawai'i State Bar Association

Awards and Recognition

Best Lawyers in America™ Water Law (2008-2011); Nat. Resources (2010-11)
Martindale-Hubbell BV rating (1986-present)

Hawai'i Justice Foundation, Evaluation Team (1998)
U.S. Department of the Interior Federal/State Task Force on Manganese Crust
Mining in Hawai'i's Exclusive Economic Zone (1985-1989)
Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture, Arts, History & Humanities (1993-2001)
National Endowment of the Humanities (Jurisprudence), Cornell (1979)
National Economic Development Law Center, Berkeley, CA. (1979)

Publications

At Water's Edge - Integrating Water and Land Use Planning. Hawaii Business
Magazine (October 2005)
Time, Horizons, and the Open Seas. 17 Ocean and Coastal Management, 308-
317, (Volumes 3 & 4) (1992)
Putting the Public Trust Doctrine to Work. Coastal States Organization, (NOAA)
(1990)
*Hawai'i's Perspective on Jurisdictional Issues within the Exclusive Economic
Zone.* Pacific Basin Development Council (1988)